WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

PTA Bulletin

Vol. III No. 5 January 1956

HOW ARE OUR CHILDREN DOING?

REGULAR PTA MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 8:00 PM

How well do Arlington school children know their basic tool subjects - reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling and so on? Wakefield PTA parents should make sure to attend the regular meeting of the PTA at Wakefield High School on Monday, January 30 at 8:00 P.M. in the Auditorium, and they will find out. The Guidance Department of the Arlington School Administration will lead a program on this question. Test records in the Arlington schools and on College entrance examinations and opinions of college educators will be used to explain Arlington's performance in these areas.

Also, Mr. Warren Cox, who recently retired as a member of the Arlington School Board, will speak briefly to the membership on the proposed school bond issue for Arlington. This bond issue of $9,430,000 will, under current plans, be presented to the voters in February or early March.

This January meeting is one of the most important of the year, and all parents are urged to make a special effort to attend. There has been a great deal of discussion pro and con about basic tool subjects- and every parent has a stake in the bond issue to be explained.

The Executive Board of the Wakefield PTA, at its meeting on Monday evening, January 26, unanimously recommended to the membership an amendment to the Constitution. This amendment will be brought before the membership at the regular meeting on January 30.

30 opposed votes

The Executive Board proposes and recommends that the Wakefield PTA amend Article 4 of the Constitution as follows:

Sentence 2 of Section 2 in Article 4 to be stricken, and the following sentence to be substituted: "The dues shall be $1.25 for each membership."

Defeated at membership meeting

Members are reminded that "membership" in the sentence means a family membership including both parents or guardians.

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RECEPTION TO MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

An informal reception will be held on Sunday, January 29 at the Washington-Lee High Little Theatre from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. for the current and retiring members of the Arlington County School Board. Everyone is invited.

Come join your friends in tribute to your School Board.

OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE COURSES FOR THE PUBLIC

The Arlington County Civil Defense Indoctrination-Family Course, which is put on by the Office of Civil Defense when enough people are interested, is just being concluded at the Claremont School.

Three two-hour classes are held evenings and teach participants how to carry out family disaster preparedness, including family evacuation, at home. Official civil defense publications are issued. Each family is urged to have at least one member take this course. The class is open to the public and residents of the county are cordially invited to attend.

Unfortunately, the last class came too soon to be included in this issue of the PTA BULLETIN, but people interested in having such a class should call the Office of Civil Defense at the Arlington County Courthouse so that a future class in this very important subject may be formed.

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PTA * FACULTY TEA

The Wakefield PTA, under the auspices of its Hospitality Committee, is holding a PTA Faculty Tea on Sunday, February 19, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM in the Boys' Gym.

This is the only social event of the year for the faculty and parents of Wakefield High. So mark the day on your calendar and plan to be there. It will provide parents an opportunity to meet their children's teachers socially.

Mrs. Kirkley Coulter, Chairman of the Hospitality Committee, stated that members of the Committee will be calling many ladies for help in the preparations for the tea.

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REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee reports 1,047 students represented by their parents' membership in the Wakefield PTA. This number represents 43.4% of the student body. Have you done your part? Remember, our goal is 60%.

You may be interested in knowing that 823 families have joined and 134 single members. Of this total, 11 members have 3 students each in Wakefield, 132 members have 2 students, and 750 have one. There are 64 teacher members without children in Wakefield.

At grade level, the 7th Grade leads at 61%. The other grades are as follows: 8th Grade, 44%; 9th Grade, 44%; 10th Grade, 41%; 11th Grade, 34%; and 12th Grade, 38%.

A breakdown to class level shows: Room 128 leading the 7th Grade at 61%; the Cafeteria (R) leading the 8th Grade at 67%; Room 208 leading the 9th Grade at 56%; Room 133 leading the 10th Grade at 62%; Room 242 leading the 11th Grade at 48%; and Room 159 leading the 12th Grade at 55%.

A fiscal canvass of the membership is being conducted for this school year. Please fill out the application your child has brought home, enclose your dues, seal and return to the home room teacher. Let's reach that goal of 60%!

Mrs. W. A. Salisbury
Membership Chairman

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SCHOOL BOND ISSUE
by Edward Futter

The School Board received my proposal for a $9,430,000 Bond Issue at its meeting on January 14. The date for a vote on this proposal will be set by the Circuit Judge under the provisions of Virginia Law. It is hoped that this vote will be during the last week in February.

Of this amount, $6,805,000 is to be used for the construction of Gunston Junior High School, the second unit of Kenmore Junior High School, and for Yorktown Senior High School. Gunston will be built on the 27 acre site already owned by the School Board which is part of the Shirley tract just northwest of the intersection of Arlington Ridge Road with South Glebe Road. Kenmore, the first part of which is now under construction with Federal funds, is located on Carlyn Springs Road just south of Arlington Boulevard. Yorktown Senior High School also will be built on the site already purchased and located on Yorktown Boulevard just south of Little Falls Road in North Arlington.

This year our High Schools already have 900 pupils beyond their regular capacity. Most of this overload is at Wakefield and Brandon. In the next 5 or 6 years our high school enrollment will increase by another 40%. Unless we can proceed rapidly with the construction of Gunston and the second unit of Kenmore, so that junior high children can be taken out of Wakefield, it will be frightfully overcrowded. Unless we pass the proposed bond issue, it is quite probable that Wakefield or one of the junior high schools, Thomas Jefferson or Kenmore first unit, will have to be placed on a double shift.

Two sixth grades from Oakridge are at Brandon. Ten sixth grade classes are at the Williamsburg and Stratford Junior High Schools in North Arlington. With the increase in junior high enrollments, these 12 sixth grade classes cannot be taken care of in junior high schools next year. There is additional building in these areas. We face the prospect of at least 30 classes on half day sessions next year unless the planned additions at Oakridge, Jamestown and Taylor can be built this summer.

There are a few other areas where some additional elementary classrooms will be needed. Several older schools need multi-purpose rooms, new heating plants, additional playground space, and general renovation. Money for these projects is provided for in ths Bond Proposal.

Last November, Fairfax County passed a $22 million bond issue. Surely Arlington with its greater resources can authorize a Bond Issue of less than $9½ million.

- SCHOOL CALENDAR -

Jan 31	Tips for teens - Patricia Stevens Modeling School	7:30 Auditorium
	Basketball at Episcopal	3:30
Feb 1	10th and 11th Grade Parents	8:00 Auditorium
Feb 2	Baseball movie,"Santa Fe",Randolph Scott - Benefit baseball building fund,40¢	7:30 Auditorium
Feb 3	Wrestling with Galludett	6:45 Boys' Gym
	Basketball, George Washington	8:00 Boys' Gym
Feb 4	J.V. Wrestling - W&L	10:00 AM (Here)
Feb 6	8th Grade Parents	8:00 Auditorium
Feb 7	Basketball at Falls Church	8:00
Feb 8	J.V. Wrestling at Northwestern	3:30
Feb 9	7th Grade Party	7:00 to 9:30
Feb 10	State Band Festival	Auditorium
	Wrestling at Suitland	8:00
	J.R.C.	8:00-10:30 Girls' Gym
	Basketball at W&L	
Feb 12	State Band Concert	Auditorium
Feb 14	Basketball at Mt. Vernon	8:00
Feb 15	Hairstyling by Patricia Stevens	7:30 Auditorium
	J.V. Wrestling at St. Albans	3:30
Feb 16	Wrestling at W&L	8:00
Feb 17	Basketball - Annandale - Here	8:00
Feb 18	Baseball Movie - "Rogues of Sherwood Forrest" John Derek	7:30 Auditorium
Feb 19	PTA Faculty Tea	4:00-6:00 Boys' Gym
Feb 21	Basketball at Fairfax	8:00
Feb 23	Basketball - Friends - Here	3:30
FEB 24	Movie - "The Undercover Man" Glen Ford,40¢	7:30 Auditorium
	State Wrestling tournament - Norfolk	
Feb 28 & 29	X-ray survey	
Mar 1	Fashion show - student models - Patricia Stevens	7:30 Auditorium
	Baseball movie - "Glen Miller Story" James Stewart,40¢	7:30 Auditorium
Mar 2	J.R.C.	8:00-10:30 Girls' Gym
Mar 2-3	St. Albans Wrestling Tournament	Boys Gym
Mar 3	One Act Play Festival	Auditorium
Mar 9	8th Grade Party	8:00-10:30 Girls' Gym
	End of 12 weeks exploratory courses	
Mar 15	County Junior High Music Festival	Boys Gym
Mar 16	J.R.C.	8:00-10:30 Girls' Gym
Mar 17	Baseball Movie	7:30 Auditorium
Mar 22-23	School Play - The Miser	Auditorium
Mar 24	District Instrumental Music Festival	Auditorium

STATE BAND FESTIVAL

February 10, 11, and 12th

We are in need of housing for participants in this festival. If you are willing to have a boy or girl as your house guest, please contact the school office - JA 5-8800 or Mrs. Ethel Beatty - JA 5-9423 (after 4:30 P.M.).